

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-2, and 4-7 are pending in the application. A part of the specification has been amended. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. Applicant believes that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance for at least the following reasons.

### **I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 1, 2 and 4-7. It is respectfully submitted that the informalities pointed out by the Examiner have been fully addressed by the amendments to the specification and the claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

### **II. OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

The specification stands objected to because of informalities. The related portions of the specification have been amended to improve their readability. Regarding the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 2, the coupling grooves 3b shown in Fig. 2 are displaced from a center line connecting centers of the round penetration holes 3a, toward the rotation reel 2 along the feed direction X. In other words, the coupling grooves 3b are formed in an arc shape so that the peel sheet 1 can be easily peeled off. See, for example, page 8, lines 10-27 of the present specification. Therefore, the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 2 is believed to be sufficiently clear now. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

### **III. OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1 and 2 stand objected to because of informalities. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns.

Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the coupling grooves are "displaced to rear ends in the feed direction ...," instead of reciting "shifted." Since this "displacement to rear ends" defines a configuration of a claimed element in a sheet according to the invention, the displacement of the coupling grooves does not require any "basis" suggested by the Examiner. Such claimed configuration is believed to be sufficiently clear from the plain meaning of the claim language in reference to the description of the present specification referring to, for example, Figs. 1 and 2, as discussed above in section II.

Regarding the allegedly contradicting claim language, "within the width," the related portion of claim 2 has been deleted.

Antecedent basis issues in claims 1 and 2 have been also addressed by the amendments. Therefore, these amendments are believed to be sufficient to overcome the objections. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance at an early date. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 510-843-6200, ext. 245.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Limited Recognition under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

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